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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Jet Production at Avia, Letnany SUBJECT

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- The Avia National Corporation in Letnany near Prague has been producing MIG-15 planes under Russian technical supervision since February 1952. By July 1952, only two two-seater planes had been completed and tested. A third plane had been assembled and was ready for testing. The plane is designed to carry four machine guns and two cannons.
- 2. Until the end of May 1952, the firselage for this model was produced by the Rudy Letov National Corporation Since then Aviahas been making the bodies.
- 3. By the end of June 1952, 98 plane wings had been produced. It was then discovered that the wrong type of screws were being used. An investigation for sabotage was conducted; the screws were to be replaced by a new type. By the end of July, however, the proper screws were still unavailable.
- 4. The number of defective spare parts at the plant far exceeds the production plan estimate. A shortage of materials has resulted and the management has threatened fines for every case of imperfect work. Special tools are also lacking. Some of the assembly rooms were forced to send personnel on vacations during June 1952.
- 5. In May 1952, the Avia management tried to introduce the Soviet norm system of work. Under this system, workers were to receive about one fourth of their former wages for the same output. The workers went on strike against this decree. The strike lasted three hours, fifteen minutes; in the end, the old wage scale remained unchanged. In June, new norms were introduced by which the necessary output per hour was increased.
- 6. Factory identification cards differ for each section of the plant. Workers are thus prevented from visiting any assembly room other than their own.

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